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ONE HUNDRED NINTH CONGRESS

# Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM

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July 20, 2006

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Mr. James L. Connaughton  
Chairman  
Council on Environmental Quality  
722 Jackson Place, NW  
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Chairman Connaughton:

Thank you for your participation in the hearing on climate change. We have some additional questions regarding the Administration's activities relating to climate change that were not explored at the hearing, and we would like your assistance in obtaining certain documents related to these activities.

Specifically, we are interested in documents that would shed light on interactions between the Council on Environmental Quality and other government agencies and outside parties relating to the Administration's position and public communications on climate science. Among other issues, there has been substantial controversy regarding the actions of the former chief of staff for CEQ, Phillip Cooney. Mr. Cooney, who is not a scientist, was reported to have been active in editing scientific reports on global warming produced by other government agencies.

We request that you provide to the Committee all communications and other documents relating to:

- (1) Mr. Cooney's activities related to climate change;
- (2) CEQ's review of and suggested edits to materials produced by other federal agencies regarding climate change;
- (3) Efforts by CEQ to manage or influence statements made by government scientists or experts to representatives of media regarding climate change;
- (4) CEQ's communications with other federal agencies regarding climate change science; and

The Honorable James Connaughton

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- (5) Contacts between CEQ and any nongovernmental party related to climate change.

This request does not encompass documents that CEQ has previously made publicly available. Please provide the requested documents by August 11, 2006.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Davis".

Tom Davis  
Chairman

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Henry A. Waxman".

Henry A. Waxman  
Ranking Member